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Message Text

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---------- 106571
R 201722Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232714

FOLLOWING REPEAT COLOMBO 3159 ACTION SECSTATE, INFO NAC COLLECTIVE
DTD 22 AUG 76.

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 3159

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, XM
SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: LATIN AMERICANS AT THE NON-ALIGNED
SUMMIT.

1. THE GROUP OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN DELEGATIONS
PLAYED A SMALL ROLE AT THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT. THOSE
DELEGATIONS WHICHPURSUED ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN
CONFERENCE DELIBERATIONS ADOPTED A RELATIVELY MORE
MODERATE STANCE THAN THEY HAD IN THE PAST, AND WITH
THE EXCEPTION OF CUBA LIMITED THEIR EFFORTS TO ISSUES
OF SPECIAL INTEREST. WHILE THE POLITICAL DECLARATION
SPOKE OF "THEINCREASING ROLE THIS REGIO IS PLAYING,Z
THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT REMAINS PREDOMINANTLY AN AFFAIR OF TWO
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2. CUBA AND PERU STAND OUT IN PARTICULAR FOR THEIR ACTIVITY. WHILE CUBA HAD A MULTIPLICITY OF INTERESTS IN LATIN AMERICAN, AFRICAN, AND ECONOMIC ISSUES, IT DID NOT STRIKE AGGRESSIVE POSTURE IN THE CONFERENCE AND ACCEPTED DEFEAT OF ITS ECONOMIC THESES, OF ITS EXTREME RESOLUTION ON PUERTO RICO, AND, WE HAVE BEEN TOLD, OF ITS HOPE TO HAVE THE NAC ENDORSE ITS INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA EXPLICITLY. PERU, WHOSE DELEGATION ARRIVED WITH THE PRESTIGE OF HOST OF LASY YEAR'S MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE, UNEXPECTEDLY PLAYED A FORCEFUL ROLE IN COUNTERING NORTH-KOREAN POSITION WITHIN NAC. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, PERUVIAN DEL SILVA ALSO CLAIMED CREDIT FOR LEADING WIDESPREAD OPPOSITION TO PR RESOLUTION. SILVA WAS DELIGHTED AT PERUVIAN REFLECTION TO COORDINATING COMMITTEE WHERE HE WAS CERTAIN PERU WOULD CONTINUE VIGOROUSLY TO ESPOUSE "TRULY NON-ALIGNED" LINE. (SILVA ACCOMPAINED EXPOSITION OF PERU'S "INDEPENDENT" FOREIGN POLICY WITH EQUALLY VIGOROUS RECOMMENDATION THAT US HELP PERU WITH "NO STRINGS" AID.)

3. DELEGATIONS FROM WHOM MORE MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED (OR FEARED) WERE PANAMA AND GUYANA. AS REPORTED SEPARATELY, PANAMANIAN DELEGATION WAS, EXCEPT FOR RHETORIC OF TORRIJOS' SPEECH, THE EPITOME OF CIRCUMSPECTION. GUYANA DID NOT OVERPLAY ITS HAND ON DESTABILIZATION ISSUE AND ACHIEVED ITS MINIMUM REQUIREMENT WITH STRONG LANGUAGE IN POLITICAL DECLARATION. ARGENTINA WAS RELATIVELY UNCOMFORTABLE IN NON-ALIGNED FORUM. ITS SOLE PURPOSE IN ATTENDING WAS CLEARLY TO ASSURE THAT MALVINAS/FALKLAND ISLANDS POSITION WAS REAFFIRMED.

4. OBSERVER DELEGATIONS: MEXICO: IT WOULD APPEAR THAT PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF MEXICAN ATTENDANCE WAS TO ASSURE FAVORABLE REFERENCE TO NEXT MONTH'S CONFERENCE IN MEXICO CITY. IN THIS, THEY SUCCEEDED. WE ARE TOLD THEY ALSO ATTEMPTED TO INITIATE LANGUAGE IN DISARMAMENT AREA BUT DID NOT PLAY SIGNIFICANT ROLE ON THAT SUBJECT IN FINAL DRAFTING. IN ALL, THEIR MINISTERIAL CONFIDENTIAL

LEVEL DELEGATION MADE LITTLE IMPACT.

5. VENEZUELA: THIS WAS THE OTHER LATIN AMERICAN OBSERVER DELEGATION TO BE HEADED BY A MINISTER, BUT PEREZ GUERRERO'S ATTENDANCE WAS CLEARLY IN CONNECTION WITH HIS WORK IN CIEC, RATHER THAN AN EXPRESSION OF VENEZUELAN INTEREST IN NON-ALIGNED

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MOVEMENT. WHILE PEREZ UNDOUBTEDLY ENGAGED IN WIDESPREAD INFORMAL CONVERSATIONS. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT HE ATTEMPTED IN ANY WAY DIRECTLY TO INFLUENCE NEGOTIATIONS ON ECONOMIC TEXTS.

6. OTHER OBSERVERS: BRAZILIAN DELEGATION WAS TO A CERTAIN EXTENT APPALLED BY NAC PROCEEDINGS, AND CLEARLY ATTENDED IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN ACCEPTANCE WITH AFRICAN AND ASIAN COUNTRIES. EL SALVADOR DELEGATE NOT REALLY CLEAR WHAT HE WAS DOING IN COLOMBO. NO ONE HAD EVEN NOTICED THAT A BOLIVIAN DELEGATION WAS PRESENT UNTIL A BOLIVIAN-SPONSORED RESOLUTION (DEALING WITH ITS RIGHT TO ACCESS TO THE SEA) WAS ADOPTED IN CLOSING SESSION. PERUVIAN DEL SILVA TOLD EMBOFF BOLIVIAN LANGUAGE WAS NOT CONTROVERSIAL, BUT AS OF AUGUST 21 RESOLUTION HAD NOT BEEN LISTED AS FINAL CONFERENCE DOCUMENT.

7. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO ARA POSTS NOT INCLUDED IN NAC COLLECTIVE. REED UNQTE: ROBINSON

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